

B³ 7. (Amended) The [polypeptide] mpl ligand of Claim [6] 1 that is unglycosylated.

B⁴ 9. (Amended) An isolated [polypeptide] substantially homogeneous mpl ligand encoded by a nucleic acid having a sequence that hybridizes under [moderately] stringent conditions to the nucleic acid molecules [having a nucleic acid sequence provided in] encoding residues 1 to X of Fig. 8 where X is 153.

Please add the following claims:

--32. The *mpl* ligand of Claim 1 where X is residue 153-166.--

--33. The *mpl* ligand of Claim 32 where X is residue 153 to about 157.--

--34. The *mpl* ligand of Claim 7 that further contains an N-terminal methionyl amino acid residue extension.--

--35. The *mpl* ligand of Claim 4 that is covalently modified with polyethylene glycol.--

--36. The *mpl* ligand of Claim 34 that is non-immunogenic in a human.--

--37. The *mpl* ligand of Claim 36 that is covalently modified with polyethylene glycol.--

--38. The isolated *mpl* ligand of Claim 9 wherein the nucleic acid molecules are DNA.--

--39. The *mpl* ligand of Claim 9 that contains the amino acid sequence SPAPPACDLRVLSKLLRDSHVLHSRL.

--40. The *mpl* ligand of Claim 9 that contains the human *mpl* ligand amino acid sequence of Figure 8 from residue 1 to residue 153.--